



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### **LaSalle Parish volunteers raise awareness to protect drinking water**

BATON ROUGE - When the DEQ Drinking Water Protection Team moved into LaSalle Parish, they formed a parish Drinking Water Protection Committee. The Drinking Water Protection Committees are groups of individuals that are dedicated to protecting their drinking water source from contamination and usually formed on a parish or watershed basis. Over the next few months, the committee members will be visiting local businesses to raise awareness of the importance of protecting the source of drinking water in the parish.

The drinking water supply in LaSalle Parish comes from groundwater, which is stored in underground sand and gravel layers called aquifers. Actions, such as the disposal of waste and the use of chemicals and fuels, can have an impact on the aquifers. Committee members will visit businesses that may use or store fuels or chemicals located within one mile of the public water supply wells in the parish. The members will give them information on where their drinking water sources are and what they can do to help protect them. Business owners will be provided with Drinking Water Protection Partner decal that can be placed in their window to show their awareness and support for clean drinking water.

This public outreach campaign is part of the Drinking Water Protection Program, a voluntary program designed by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to assist Louisiana communities in protecting their drinking water. For more information contact the Drinking Water Protection Team at 225-219-3510 or visit the Web site at [www.DEQ.Louisiana.gov/AEPS](http://www.DEQ.Louisiana.gov/AEPS).

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